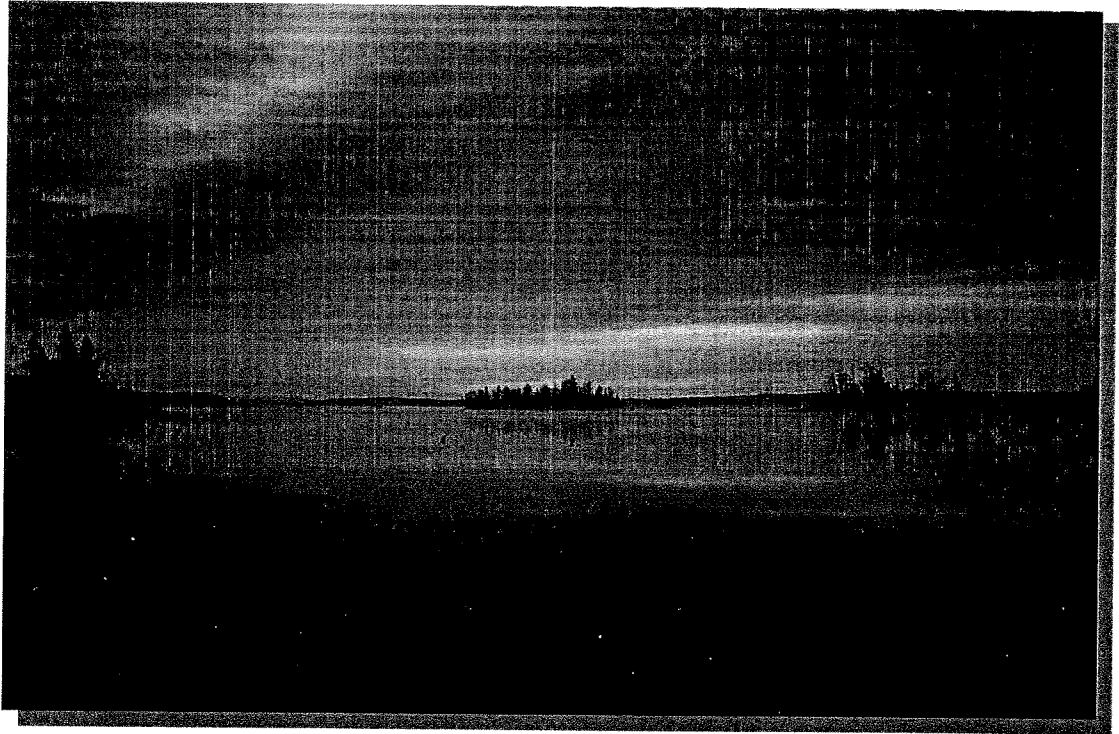


GILE FLOWAGE WATERSHED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN-PHASE I



Gile Flowage Sunrise

**WISCONSIN DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LAKE PLANNING GRANT
LPL-900-04**

**SUBMITTED JOINTLY BY THE
TOWN OF CAREY AND THE TOWN OF PENCE
IRON COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

DECEMBER, 2004

GILE FLOWAGE WATERSHED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN-PHASE I

REPORT CONTENTS & DELIVERABLES

as per Lake Planning Grant Agreement

Introduction

Map of Project Area

Grant Activities Timeline

Environmental Inventory of the Gile Flowage Watershed

Shoreland Assessment

Base Planning Maps

Review and Assessment of Existing Land Use Regs and Plans

Survey of Gile Flowage Watershed Landowners

Gile Flowage Lake History

Plan for Sharing Project Results

A Lake Association Formed For the Flowage

Phase I Preliminary Plan

A Steering Committee Of Stakeholders

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Lake Planning Grant

LPL-900-04

In partnership with the
Towns of Carey and Pence
Iron County, Wisconsin

**RESULTS OF THE GILE FLOWAGE SURVEY
PUBLIC INFORMATION PRESENTATION**

“VIEWS FROM THE FLOWAGE”

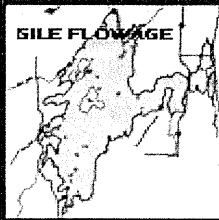


**By Will Andresen- Iron County
University of Wisconsin-Extension
Community Resource Development Agent**

November 10, 2004

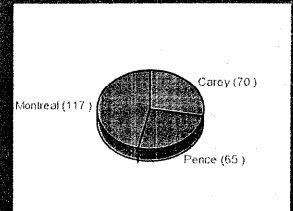
Iron County Courthouse- Hurley

Views from the Flowage



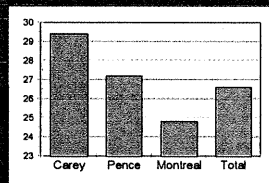
Respondents

A total of 252 surveys were returned

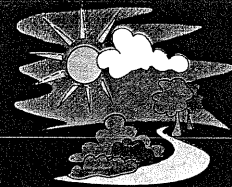


Response Rates

Overall, there was a good response rate of 26.6%

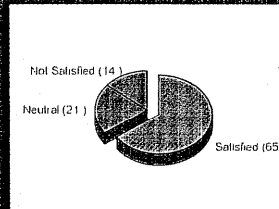


Satisfaction, Value and Use



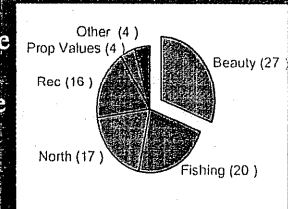
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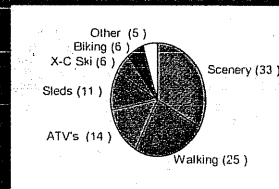
What is Most Valued?

"Scenic beauty" is the most valued characteristic of the flowage



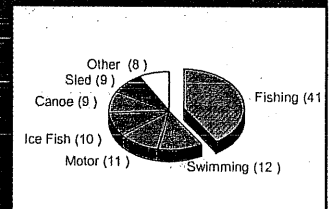
Most Popular On-Land Uses

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The most common water based use is fishing – from a boat and from the shore

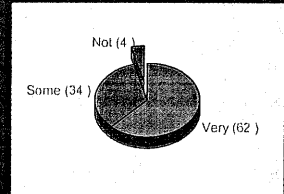


Land Use and Development



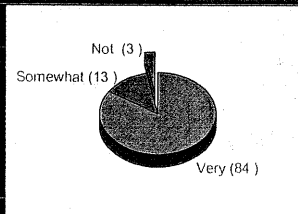
Are land use and development issues important?

Yes, only 4% believe that they are not important



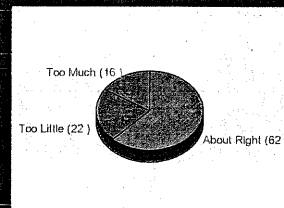
How important is preserving the Northwood's character?

Very important. Only 3% feel that it is not important



Development of the Gile Flowage

Most respondents think that the watershed is developed about right

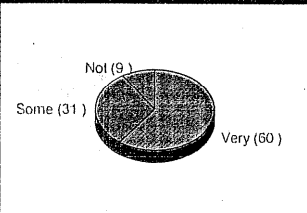


Recreational Use



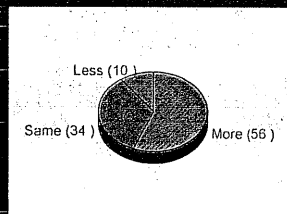
How important is on-the-water recreation?

60% say it is very important



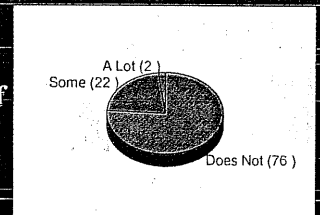
Trends in Recreational Use

Most agree that recreational use of the flowage has increased over the past several years



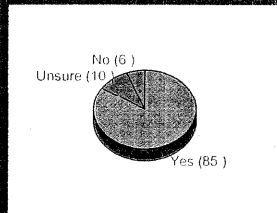
Do current levels of recreational use diminish your enjoyment?

Most agree that it does not diminish their enjoyment of the flowage

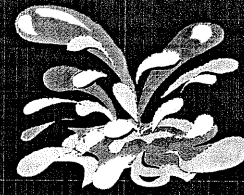


Enhanced Fishing

There is strong support for efforts to improve fishing (through the construction of fish cribs or the stocking of fish)

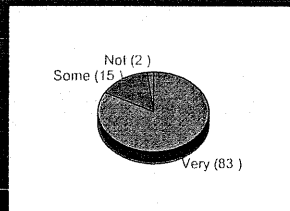


Water Quality



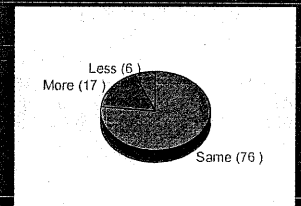
Importance of Water Quality

Virtually everybody agrees that the quality of the Gile Flowage water is important



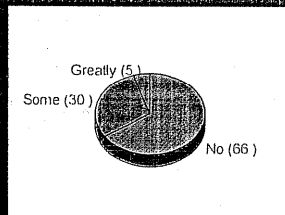
Has the water become more polluted?

Most people believe that the water quality has stayed about the same over the past several years

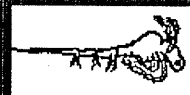


Does water quality affect your enjoyment?

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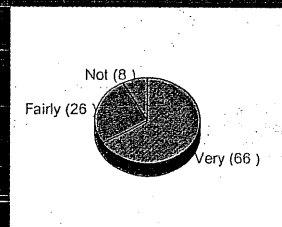


Exotic Species



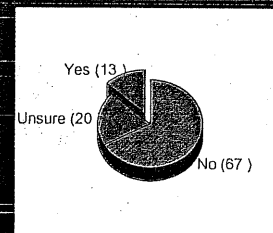
How important is the issue of exotic species?

This is a critical issue, as over 90% feel that it is either fairly important or very important



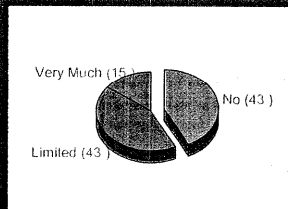
Have you noticed exotic species?

Only a few respondents actually noticed exotic species in the flowage



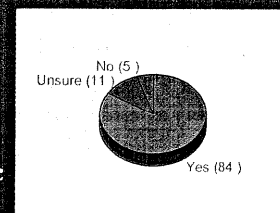
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The majority are negatively affected by exotic species – at least to a limited degree



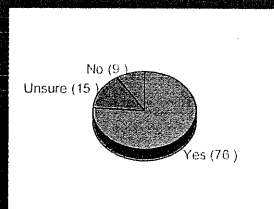
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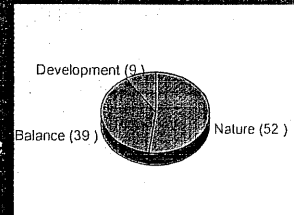
Public Access

Vision for the Future



What is your vision for the watershed?

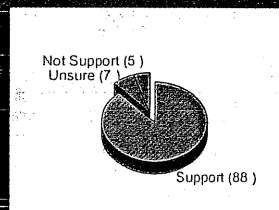
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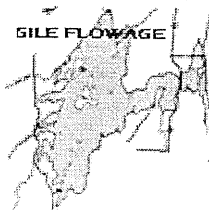
Do you support long range planning for the watershed?

No question about it

Nearly 90% support long range planning for the Gile Flowage watershed

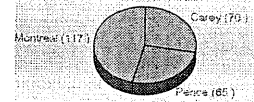


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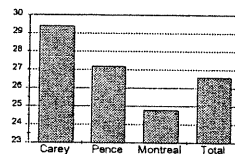
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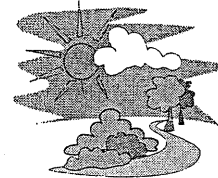


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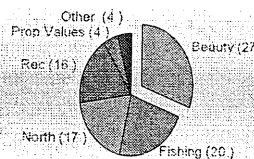


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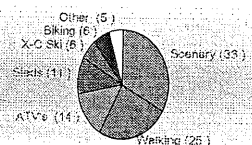
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On-the-Water Recreational Use



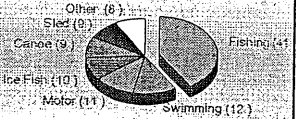
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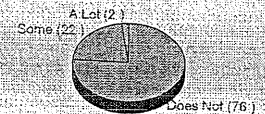
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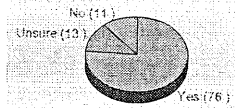


Do You Support Ordinances that Would:

- Limit Jet Skis to Select Areas/Times (62%)
- Prohibit Wakes in Select Areas (59%)
- Limit Water Skiing to Select Areas (59%)
- Prohibit Jet Skis (57%)
- Limit the Size of Motors Allowed (47%)
- Provide Non-Motorized Areas (33%)
- Limit Times for Motorized Use (27%)

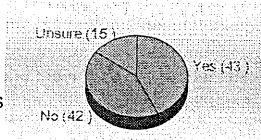
Island Camping – Permitted?

Most believe that camping on the island should be permitted



Island Camping – Developed?

There was a fairly even split on whether or not to develop the islands for camping

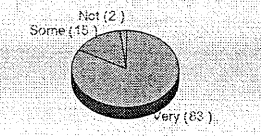


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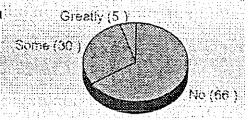
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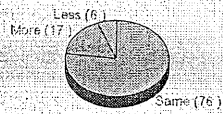
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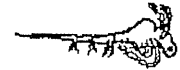


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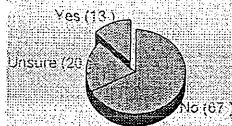
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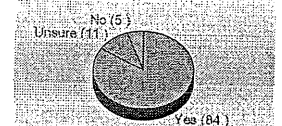
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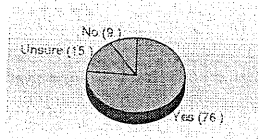
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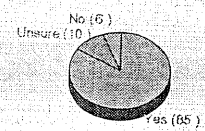
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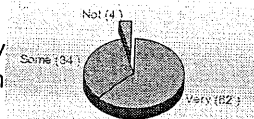


Land Use and Development



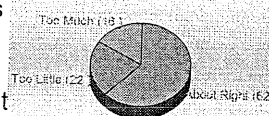
Are land use and development issues important?

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Development of the Gile Flowage

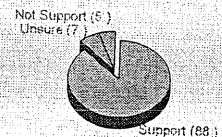
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Do you support long range planning for the watershed?

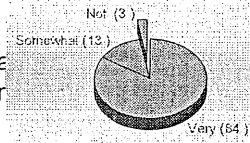
No question about it

Nearly 90% support long range planning for the Gile Flowage watershed



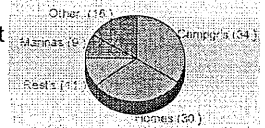
How important is preserving the Northwood's character?

Very important.
Only 3% feel that it is not important



Future Development

IF there was future development, what type of land use would you like to see?



Land Ownership

Most respondents support retaining public ownership of watershed lands



Public Access

Satisfaction with Public Access to the Gile Flowage

- Satisfaction Levels Were Highest For:
 - Quality and Quantity of Public Access Sites
- Satisfaction Levels Were Lowest For:
 - Restroom Facilities and Garbage Pick-up

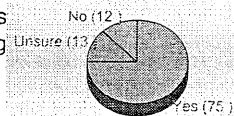
Public Access Site Improvements

The Following Improvements were Supported:

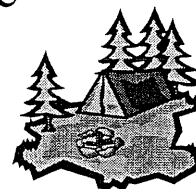
- Provide Toilet Facilities – 61%
- Improve Parking – 46%
- Improve Lighting – 40%

Recreational Vehicle Access

Should snowmobil and ATV's be permitted to access the flowage during the winter?

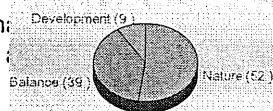


Vision for the Future



What is your vision for the watershed?

Over half agree that there should be high priority placed on protecting nature



Management and Education

Percent Supporting the Following:

- Information at Public Access Sites (78%)
- Education Regarding Steps to Reduce Pollution (69%)
- Increased Regulation Re: Development (65%)
- Mandatory Septic Tank Inspections (61%)
- Regulations Limiting Pesticides (57%)

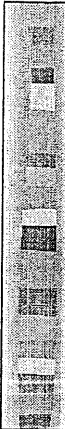
Management and Education – Continued

- Increased Zoning Setbacks and Regulations (47%)
- Education Encouraging Septic Tank Inspections (41%)
- Chemical Treatment (26%)

How to Preserve Unique Character?

Support for Methods to Preserve Character of the Gile Flowage and its Watershed:

- Develop Zoning Overlay District (49%)
- Rely on Current County Zoning (27%)
- Develop Town Ordinances (16%)
- Rely on Voluntary Compliance (8%)



Summary

- High level of Satisfaction with Existing Resources
- Desire to Preserve Character of the Watershed
- Understanding of Trends and Threats
- Significant Public Support for Long Range Planning (88%)



Next Steps...